OWTS Setbacks from Water Resources
RI DEM OWTS Rules (July 2012)

"Watercourse" means any river, stream, brook, pond, lake, swamp, marsh, bog, fen, wet meadow, area subject to storm flowage, or any other standing or flowing body of water, including such watercourses that may be affected by the tides.

From: Table 22.1
For areas <u>not</u> located within a Critical Resource Area:

	All other OWTS Components		Leachfield	
	Design Flow <5000 gpd	Design Flow ≥5000 gpd	Design Flow <5000 gpd	Design Flow ≥5000 gpd
Coastal Shoreline Feature (Note 11) not in a Critical Resource Area, Flowing Water (Rivers and Streams), Open Bodies of Water (Lakes and Ponds), Other Watercourses Not Mentioned Above, and Any Stormwater Management Structure That Potentially Intercepts Groundwater	25	50	50	100

Note (11): The minimum setback distance from the inland edge of the coastal shoreline feature of the ocean or Narragansett Bay is either fifty (50) feet or twenty five (25) feet plus the CRMC calculated shoreline change setback pursuant to the CRMP Section 140, whichever is greater. Shoreline change rates and maps are available on CRMC's web site. This setback distance is doubled for OWTSs with design flow greater than five thousand (5000) gallons per day.

Table 22.2 Minimum Setback Distances from Drinking Water Supply Watershed Critical Resource Area Features (distances in feet from all OWTS components). See also Figure 2. If it is shown to the Department's satisfaction by clear and convincing evidence that the feature of concern in this table is upgradient (for both groundwater and surface water flow) of the OWTS, the minimum setback distance will be determined from Table 22.1. Subsurface drains to lower the seasonal high groundwater table are not permitted in accordance with Rule 40.2.

Feature	**OWTS Design Flow < 5000 gpd**	**OWTS Design Flow ≥5000 gpd** (Note 1)
Impoundment with Intake for Drinking Water Supply and Adjacent Wetlands (Note 2)	200	400
Subsurface Drains and Foundation Drains that Discharge Directly to the Impoundment	200	400
Subsurface Drains and Foundation Drains that Discharge to a Drainage Swale that Subsequently Discharges to the Impoundment: Paved Swale Unpaved Swale <200 feet long Unpaved Swale ≥200 feet long	 200 200 100	 400 400 200
Tributaries, Tributary Wetlands, Swales, and Storm Drains that Discharge Directly to the Impoundment	100 Note (3)	200 Note (3)
Subsurface Drains, Foundation Drains, and Storm Drains that Discharge to Tributaries and Tributary Wetlands	100 Note (3)	200 Note (3)
Any other Watercourse in the Drinking Water Supply Watershed (Not Connected to the Impoundment) or Areas Subject to Storm Flowage	50	100

Notes:

(1) As defined in Rule 35.1.1.

(2) Distances measured from the yearly high water mark.

(3) The distance between the building sewer or septic tank effluent pipe and a drain may be reduced and the building sewer or effluent pipe may cross the drain provided that the building sewer or septic tank effluent pipe is sleeved whenever they are within twenty-five (25) feet of the drain. The sleeve shall be seamless or schedule 40 PVC or equivalent with watertight joints, and it shall have a watertight seal that is fastened to the pipes with a stainless steel retractable clamp.

Figure 2

Minimum Setback Distances in Drinking Water Supply Watershed Critical Resource Areas

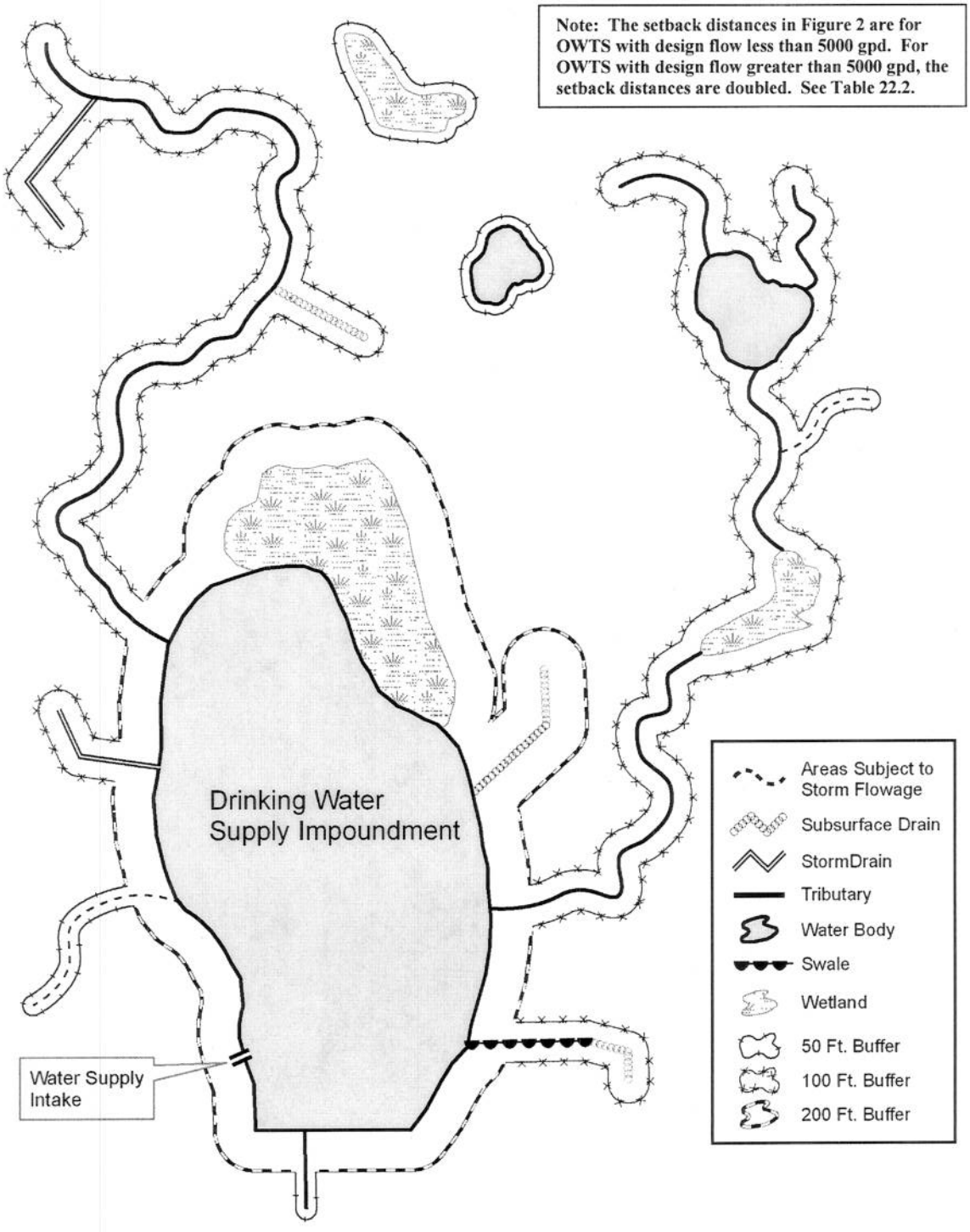

Table 22.3 Minimum Setback Distances from Features in the Salt Pond and Narrow River Critical Resource Area (distances in feet from all OWTS components). See also Figure 3. If it is shown to the Department's satisfaction by clear and convincing evidence that the feature of concern in this table is upgradient (for both groundwater and surface water flow) of the OWTS, the minimum setback distance will be determined from Table 22.1. Applications for an OWTS permit that are approved by DEM are subject to the requirements of CRMC.

Feature	**OWTS Design Flow < 5000 gpd**	**OWTS Design Flow ≥5000 gpd** (Note 1)
Salt Pond/Narrow River Coastal Shoreline Features, excluding the ocean	200	400
Subsurface Drains and Foundation Drains that Discharge Directly to the Salt Pond/Narrow River	200	400
Subsurface Drains and Foundation Drains that Discharge to an open Drainage Swale that Subsequently Discharges to the Salt Pond/Narrow River:		
Paved Swale	200	400
Unpaved Swale <200 feet long	200	400
Unpaved Swale ≥200 feet long	150	300
Tributaries, Tributary Wetlands, Swales, and Storm Drains that Discharge Directly to the Salt Pond/Narrow River	150 Note (2)	300 Note (2)
Subsurface Drains, Foundation Drains, and Storm Drains that Discharge to Tributaries and Tributary Wetlands	150	300
Any Other Watercourse in Salt Pond/Narrow River Critical Resource Area (Not Connected to Salt Pond/Narrow River), Areas Subject to Storm Flowage, or the inland edge of the coastal shoreline feature of the ocean. (Note 3)	50	100

Notes:

(1) As defined in Rule 35.1.1.

(2) The distance between the building sewer or septic tank effluent pipe and a drain may be reduced and the building sewer or effluent pipe may cross the drain provided that the building sewer or septic tank effluent pipe is sleeved whenever they are within twenty-five (25) feet of the drain. The sleeve shall be seamless or schedule 40 PVC or equivalent with watertight joints, and it shall have a watertight seal that is fastened to the pipes with a stainless steel retractable clamp.

(3) The minimum setback distance from the inland edge of the coastal shoreline feature of the ocean is either fifty (50) feet or twenty-five (25) feet plus the CRMC calculated shoreline change setback pursuant to CRMP Section 140, whichever is greater. Shoreline change rates and maps are available on CRMC's web site. This minimum setback distance is doubled for OWTSs with design flow greater than five thousand (5000) gallons per day.

Figure 3

Minimum Setback Distances in the Salt Pond and Narrow River Critical Resource Areas

Note: The setback distances in Figure 3 are for OWTS with design flow less than 5000 gpd. For OWTS with design flow greater than 5000 gpd, the setback distances are doubled. See Table 22.3.